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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHELTON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

### PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It is my honor and privilege to announce today's opening prayer will be offered by the Right Reverend Geralyn Wolf from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, shepherd of our souls, the global community listens with eager expectation to the deliberations and decisions of the Senate of these United States.

With Your holy wisdom, enter the hearts of those who serve this august Chamber; assure them of Your constant love and presence as they address challenges that occasion creative solutions.

Let Your holy spirit come and breathe upon their anxieties, diminishing their power, and releasing a freshness of vision that secures the common good and honors the generations to follow.

May their pursuit of peace, security, and happiness extend across nations and peoples, moving beyond political allegiances to a proclamation of hope for all humanity.

Bless us, dear Lord, and make us a blessing to others. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHELTON WHITEHOUSE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, July 14, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHELTON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of New Mexico). The Senator from Rhode Island.

### WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I am delighted to be here with my senior colleague, Senator JACK REED, to welcome Geralyn Wolf, the Bishop of the Episcopal Archdiocese of Rhode Island, who shared with us the prayer this morning.

I wish to share with my colleagues what a wonderful addition she is to our Rhode Island community. She has served in Kentucky and in Pennsylvania, but she has been in Rhode Island for many years and has been devoted to our community, particularly to the needy in our community, to the point where at one point she spent 30 days living as a homeless person in order to see firsthand what the resources were to support people when they faced the burden and the sorrow of homelessness and to inform her actions as the bishop of our diocese.

She is keenly interested in the Sudan and works with priests who are helping to bring Christianity to those areas as the vehicle for peace amidst some of the worst and most horrific violence on the face of our planet.

It gives both Senator REED and myself great pride that she has come down to Washington today to open the Senate. It is my hope, and I am sure Senator REED's as well, that during the course of our deliberations today we will be informed by the hopes and the sentiments and the confidence and the blessings she expressed.

I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I join my colleague Senator WHITEHOUSE in welcoming Bishop Wolf to the Senate today. I commend Senator WHITEHOUSE for his invitation. Bishop Wolf is not only a pastoral leader in our community, she is also a great community leader. She not only preaches the gospel, she lives the gospel.

As Senator WHITEHOUSE indicated, she went on the mean streets of Providence, and there are such streets in every town in this country, to experience firsthand the travails and the troubles of people just trying to get by. That experience informed her ministry and informed her public positions, and we thank her for that. She has a global vision as well as a vision in Rhode Island. That global vision is a world inspired by American actions that is peaceful and progressive and finds opportunity for all.

So on behalf of the people of Rhode Island, I wish to thank her for her service, and I thank her especially for the grace she has brought to us today and has brought the State of Rhode Island as a result of her service.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. REED of Rhode Island). The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following any leader remarks, the Senate will be

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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